

DECLASSIFIED

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT

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© PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND SCREENING SAMPLING  
NECHES BUTANE PRODUCTS CO. AND ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES  
(B. F. GOODRICH CHEMICAL CO. AND SYNPOL, INC.)  
PORT NECHES, TEXAS

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## PERMITS/REGULATIONS

Neches Butane, Synpol, and BFG are required by State and Federal law to meet the requirements and limitations of wastewater discharge permits (State and Federal), State air regulations, and the State Solid Waste Disposal Act. These requirements/limitations are discussed below.

### WASTEWATER DISCHARGE PERMITS

Wastewater discharges from these three plants and the neighboring Texaco Chemical, Inc. (formerly Jefferson Chemical Co.) facility are regulated by "umbrella-type" NPDES (# TX 0005970) and Texas Department of Waste Resources [TDWR (# 00511)] permits [Appendix B]. These permits cover four untreated discharges from the Complex and treated wastewater from the Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (JWWTP-treats some wastewaters from all four industries and is discussed in a separate NEIC Performance Evaluation and Screening Sampling Report). These discharges are to shown in Figure 1 and listed below.

- Outfall 030 - JWWTP final effluent; discharge is to the Neches Butane Outfall Canal (not discussed in this report)
- Outfall 010 - once-through cooling water from Neches Butane; discharge is to the Neches Butane Outfall Canal
- Outfall 001 - combined flow of 030, 010, and 020 after being mixed in the Neches Butane Outfall Canal
- Outfall 020 - 'clean'\* wastewaters include steam condensate, pump gland water, vessel decontamination water, and stormwater from Neches Butane; discharge is to the Neches Butane Outfall Canal

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\* 'Clean' wastewaters refer to those conveyed by the Neches Butane 'clean' wastewater ditch system and does not conote no contamination.

## OUTFALL 002

Outfall 002 discharges 'uncontaminated'\* steam condensate and storm-water runoff from Synpol and BFG. Discharge is to the Neches River without prior treatment. There were 12 TOC, 8 oil and grease, and 13 pH violations reported for this outfall between January 1978 and July 1980 [Table 4].

The wastewater collection/segregation system at these two plants was not inspected by the NEIC.

The weir/sample collection box at the discharge is subject to tidal inundation by the Neches River which probably causes unrepresentative monitoring results. The frequency and exact affect of this is unknown. However, previously reported discharge monitoring data for this outfall probably does not properly characterize the discharge.

## OUTFALL 030

Outfall 030 discharges effluent from the Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (JWWTP) which processes wastewaters from all three industries (as well as from an adjacent chemical plant). The JWWTP is discussed in a separate NEIC Performance Evaluation and Screening Sampling Report. However, a full discussion of the wastewaters generated at Neches Butane, Synpol, and BFG, which are treated at the JWWTP and are part of 030, is given here.

## Neches Butane

Process wastewater, storm runoff, and sanitary and other wastewaters (referred to as 'dirty' by Neches Butane) are collected in a series of open, unlined ditches ('dirty' wastewater ditches - [Figure 2]) and sent to in-plant treatment before being sent to the JWWTP. Stormwaters include those from the maintenance area [block 14, Figure 2], and the two major process areas [blocks 10 and 12, Figure 2].

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\* 'Uncontaminated' wastewater is that which is reported to be essentially free of process contamination.